

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 ARA-06 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 MCT-01 /069 W

-----142019Z 047273 /44

P R 141911Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2118

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

ALL OTHER AMCONSULS CANADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CA, CU

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO EXPULSION OF FIVE CUBAN SPIES

REF: OTTAWA 0092

1. PRESS HAS DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO EXPULSION OF FIVE CUBAN SPIES. SUBSEQUENT STATEMENT BY CUBAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH CONFIRMED SPYING ACTIVITIES, ALSO WIDELY DISSEMINATED. ACCORDING TO PRESS, CUBAN STATEMENT "ACKNOWLEDGED INFORMATION GATHERING ACTIVITIES, BUT SAID THEY WERE DIRECTED AGAINST SUPPORTERS OF A CIA-BACKED ARMY THAT LOST ANGOLAN CIVIL WAR. IT SAID CUBANS HAVE A PERFECT RIGHT TO CONDUCT THESE OPERATIONS, WHICH WERE NOT DIRECTED AGAINST CANADA."

2. PRESS REACTIONS HAVE TENDED TO BE HIGHLY CRITICAL OF CUBAN STATEMENT AND OF GOVERNMENT OF CANADA. LATER CRITICISMS HAVE FOCUSED ON 1) THE FACT THAT GOC APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN DUPED BY THE CUBANS AND 2) GOVERNMENT OF CANADA EVIDENT DESIRE TO DOWN-PLAY ENTIRE ISSUE. OTTAWA JOURNAL ON JAN 13 IN EDITORIAL

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ENTITLED, "WITH FRIENDS LIKE THIS" ACCUSED CUBA OF "VIOLATING A BASIC CANNON OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND THAT CANADA CANNOT CASUALLY OVERLOOK IT." JOURNAL CONCLUDES BY SAYING "WHAT CANADA MUST ASSESS IS WHETHER ITS RELATIONS WITH CUBA ARE IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO TOLERATE THE ABOVE. THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA COULD DEMAND THAT CUBA CLOSE THE MONTREAL

CONSULATE...THAT WOULD BE ENTIRELY DEFENSEABLE."
OTTAWA CITIZEN ECHOED SIMILAR CRITICISM OF
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA ON ITS EDITORIAL PAGES.

3. COMMENT: GOVERNMENT OF CANAD WAS OBVIOUSLY PLACED IN DIFFICULT
SITUATION WHEN STORIES APPEARED IN RHODESIA AND
WERE PICKED UP BY CANADIAN PRESS. IT HAD TO ACT,
BUT AT SAME TIME IT IS OBVIOUS GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
VALUES ITS CUBAN CONNECTION AND IS TRYING TO DOWN-PLAY
THE ISSUE. AFTER ALL, CUBA REMAINS GOOD TRADING
PARTNER AND RECIPIENT OF CANADIAN AID.
ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, ESPIONAGE, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OTTAWA00125
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770015-0236
Format: TEL
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770151/aaaabsil.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 OTTAWA 92
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
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SAS ID: 3596723
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: REACTIONS TO EXPULSION OF FIVE CUBAN SPIES
TAGS: PINT, CA, CU
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Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f83e71d9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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